DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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Classification/Control Markings

This report contains unprocessed information. Plans and/or policies should not be evolved or modified solely on basis of this report.

1. COUNTRY: ARGENTINA (AR)

2. REPORT NUMBER: (b)(3):10 USC 424

3. TITLE: (U) Political & Sociological Comments by Argentine Federal Police Chief

4. PROJECT NUMBER: N/A

5. DATE OF INFORMATION: 770325

6. DATE OF REPORT: 770516

7. DATE & PLACE OF ACQUISITION: 770325, Buenos Aires

8. REFERENCES: (b)(3):10 USC 424

9. ASSESSMENT: SOURCE (b)(3):10 USC 42 INFO

10. ORIGINATOR: (b)(3):10 USC 424

11. REQUEST EVALUATION ____, QPQ _____ (country)

12. PREPARING OFFICER: (b)(3):10 USC 424

13. APPROVING AUTHORITY:

14. SOURCE: (b)(3):10 USC 424

15. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

~~NOFORN TO AVOID EMBARRASSMENT OF HOST GOVT~~

DIRC YES ☐ NO ☒

16. SUMMARY:

(U) Report forwards comments by Argentine Federal Police Chief, BG Edmundo OJEDA.

270

17. SUBJECT AND AREA CODES:

18. DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR:
DIA *(original)*

USCINCSO/SCJ-2-AD/
SC-12AD
DIA/DS-6A

19. DOWNGRADING AND DECLA (b)(3):10 USC 424

~~SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF EO 11652. AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO YEAR INTERVALS. DECLASSIFIED ON 31 DEC 1983~~

20. ENCLOSURES:

NONE

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21. This IR contains 3 pages.

DD Form 1 SEP 76 1396

1 SEPT 62 EDITION MAY BE USED UNTIL 1 MAR 77

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22. DETAILS: ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ During a function on 25 March 1977 for foreign attaches, the Federal Police Chief, BG Edmundo OJEDA told the group that his police force was very cognizant of the human rights problem in Argentina. The General's somewhat impassioned comments came following a full day of demonstration by the Federal Police's crack horse mounted squadron, K-9 corps and motorcycle force. He told the attaches that the police last year had lost 110 personnel. (Thirty of whom were officers) to terrorist action. He explained that these men died defending human rights of Argentine citizens, contrary to what some countries might believe. The tone and intensity of the General's comments indicated that he, as police chief, and probably other senior members of the government have decided to recognize that a problem with human rights does, in fact, exist.

2. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ On 28 March 1977, a source informed (b)(3):10 USC 424 BG OJEDA has taken positive steps to bring the extra curricular activities of the Federal Police under control. He issued orders that no anti-terrorist operations would be initiated by members of his security force without the express approval of the police hierarchy. Source was not certain, however, just how OJEDA intends to specifically control the activities of his 30,000 member force.

3. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ Sec. 3.3(b) (1);(b)(3):10 USC 42 the time has come for the military to reassess the tactics employed in the anti-subversive campaign. He explained that last year, the terrorist threat was considerably high and widespread throughout the nation. Command and control was necessarily decentralized and local commanders were delegated considerable authority and latitude to deal with the terrorist problem. According to Source, the situation has now changed. The threat is diminished and more control must be exercised. It was apparent, in his judgement, that the security forces must return to more conventional means and abandon methods adopted for the free wheeling, large scale anti-subversive campaign.

COMMENT: (C) BG OJEDA is normally a quiet even mannered person and it was surprising to see him give an impassioned speech on human rights. In the past, he has always been friendly and cordial with US representiaves, but it was clear that his remarks were aimed at the US attaches present. It is possible that he had been instructed to make his fiery comments, since shortly afterwards he entered into a private conversation with ARMA in what appeared to be an effort to smooth over the situation. Notwithstanding, it is fairly clear from these initial signs

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that some leaders, have taken note of the human rights issue and have recognized the need to tighten command and control over the security forces. Whether they are successful, however, in reducing the extra legal activities of the troops and police remains to be seen.

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